

March 12, 2009

The Board of Public Works & Safety met at 4:00 p.m. on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Fuelling and Higgins attending. Others attending were Chief Beloit; Asst. Chief Dixon; Asst. Comm. Miller; Supt. Givens; Pam Robinson – Posey County News; and arriving during the meeting, Comm. Maynard.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Board member Fuelling moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Higgins moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

*****CLAIMS*****

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Departments.

Chief Beloit reported receiving a letter of resignation from Officer Kevin Bratton on March 4th, with his last paid day being March 30, 2009. He continued by stating they have a list from the last interview/testing process and he would like to go ahead and contact the next name on the list. He added if not, he could hold off and retest this summer for a fall hire date, but the Academy starts late August, early September, and that may be cutting it a little close.

Board member Higgins asked how long the list is good for ?

Chief Beloit replied the current hire list is good until June.

Board member Fuelling asked Chief Beloit's recommendation ?

Chief Beloit replied he feels they should go ahead and take the next person on the list as they are already three people short and will be until July basically, due to vacations, etc.

Board member Fuelling stated he feels they should follow Chief Beloit's recommendation and hire from the list, get going on it.

Board member Higgins agreed.

Board consented for Chief Beloit to contact the next name on the hire list.

Chief Beloit continued his report by stating he has given the Board copies of a breakdown on the cost of losing an officer, around \$43,000.00. He stated he feels they need to look at some incentives to get the officers to stay. He then added there is an ordinance on the books that has a payback clause in to where is an officer leaves within the first year, he owes the city \$2,000; if he leaves in the second year, he owes \$1,500; and if he leaves in the third year, he owes \$1,000. He added he feels this ordinance should be amended to extend the number of years as well as possibly increasing the amount of the payback.

Comm. Maynard arrived at the meeting.

Board member Fuelling agreed they need to sit down and discuss extending the years and increasing the amount of the payback, several things need to be addressed actually. He then asked if when hired, there is any kind of screening process on the city's end, where they can pick and choose candidates prior to the interview process, based on certain criteria ?

Chief Beloit replied yes, they also look at job history, how long they have stayed at previous jobs – that is factored in.

Board member Higgins asked if they could maybe also try looking for some positive things as incentives to keep officers here.

Board member Fuelling stated there are no easy answers to this.

Chief Beloit stated he has talked with Attorney Higgins and she would like for the Board to make a recommendation on the number of years and amount of money to be paid back, and then present that to the Council as a recommendation of the Board of Works.

Board member Higgins stated if they extend it to four years, what about officers that may be affected by that currently ?

Chief Beloit replied they would have to grandfather everyone in that is currently employed and the new regulations would start after the amendment to the ordinance is passed.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Asst. Fire Chief Dixon stated the injured firefighter has been cleared to come back to full active duty as of today; as a matter of fact he is coming back tonight.

Board member Higgins stated Kudos to the fire department for the run at the Jr. High the other night.

Mayor Tucker agreed and added their quick response made a difference. He then asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Supt. Givens reported the LP diffusers are working great and the digester levels are low. He then stated BLA conducted a power point presentation today on controls for the plant and he learned a lot from that. He added the technology is great and he was glad to have been invited. He then thanked the Board for allowing him to attend.

Mayor Tucker stated Supt. Givens is welcome and he is doing a great job. He then asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Asst. St. Comm. Miller stated he has received a street cut permit for American Environmental, requesting to cut the alley between E. 4th and 5th, and Canal and Wood to install a monitoring well.

Board consented to the cut.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals for consideration ?

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe stated she would like authorization to write the County Auditor and request an advance draw on taxes.

Board member Higgins moved authorization be given. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated he and Comm. Maynard will be going to Vincennes Monday for an INDOT meeting concerning the stimulus money. He added it will be over noon time and he would permission for them to use the credit card for lunch. Along those same lines, he and Mrs. Willis will on Wednesday be heading

back to Ivy Tech for yet another meeting about the stimulus package, and they would also like to use the credit card for lunch.

Board member Fuelling moved permission to use the card on both occasions be given. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?
There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

Supt. Givens stated a few meetings ago he brought up getting quotes on a new truck, and he had them, but they have since expired and need to be redone. He just wanted to update the Board on that.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

Board member Fuelling stated he would like the Board to consider a new time for their meetings, a time that might suit everyone better.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Higgins moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Wolfe
Clerk-Treasurer